

## **FLORENCE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**January 14, 2015**

**8:00PM**

### **CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE**

Council President Sandusky called the meeting to order and led the Salute to the Flag.

### **SUNSHINE STATEMENT**

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: Notice was sent to the Register News for information; posted on the municipal bulletin board; placed on the web-site on January 8, 2015; and advertised in the Burlington Co. Times on January 11, 2015.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Ted Lovenduski, Paul Ostrander, Jerry Sandusky

David Woolston was absent due to a work commitment.

Also present: Mayor Craig H. Wilkie; Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas A. Sahol, Assistant Administrator; Kelly Grant, Esq., Township Solicitor; James Biegen, Township Engineer; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Council President Sandusky opened the meeting to the public.

Jack Ulmer, 200 West Front Street, was at the Good Neighbors Senior Citizens meeting the day before at which Mayor Wilkie and Assistant Administrator Sahol provided a presentation regarding the Duffy School project. It was an excellent presentation and the participants went away from the meeting with the information they wanted to know. It was a nice meeting and he wanted to thank them.

Mayor Wilkie said a presentation will be provided to the Roebling senior group on February 4.

Seeing no one else wishing to be heard, it was the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Ostrander, to close the public comments. Roll call vote – all ayes.

### **BUSINESS**

#### **Township Water and Sewer Engineer**

Administrator Brook referred to a previous meeting where Pastor Boudwin from The Fountain of Life Center approached Council about running water to the church property. There will be funds in the budget this year for a Feasibility Study regarding running water to the site. The main factors would be the cost and being able to properly and adequately treat the potable water supply.

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Once the study is complete it will be presented to the Mayor and Council for review and then Pastor Boudwin will be notified of the decision.

### **Township Engineer**

#### **Skylight Project: Payment No. 1 Garozzo & Scimeca Construction, Inc.**

Engineer Biegen said the payment request was certified for \$78,362.50. There will be a second request for payment shortly. He recommended payment.

#### **Review Change Order #2 & Final Payment Request: Barrett for Boulevard**

Engineer Biegen said there is a final payment request for Boulevard. There are two parts. First there is a change order; it was for some additions and subtractions from the quantities to bring everything to a zero balance. The final contract amount is for \$126, 217.08 for Boulevard Phase I. With that is the final payment. The final payment is for \$13, 067. 21. He recommended approving both.

#### **Review Change Order #4 & Final Payment Request: Barrett for Roads Project**

Engineer Biegen said this is the same as with the previous contract; there are increases and decreases to get to zero. The contract is \$365,203.91. Along with that is the final payment, request number three, in the amount of \$44,321.97. He recommended the payments be made but would like to require a maintenance bond for the work that was done.

#### **Review Plans for Boulevard and Road Paving**

Engineer Biegen said these are two projects that will go out to bid shortly. The first is Boulevard Phase II. He reviewed the parameters of the project. He indicated where there would be milling and paving and explained most of the sidewalks and curbing would be done in the areas indicated. The DOT is requiring the railroad crossing sign remain. There will be some improvements to the center island but they are minor.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said there had been preliminary inspections of the trees in the area. There are only one or two trees that need to be addressed that the residents are concerned with. There are a lot of areas where plantings can occur. The Shade Tree Commission will work with the arborist to create a planting scheme and the residents will be kept informed.

Mayor Wilkie said there is one house that has a bush planted between the curb and the sidewalk that needs to be removed. The resident will be informed. Assistant Administrator Sahol drafted a notice that was given to the residents. They were individualized to each property regarding what they could expect during the project. Mayor Wilkie noted that Assistant Administrator Sahol always had verbal interaction with those affected, but after some of the problems that came up with Phase I, it was decided to send correspondence to the residents.

Engineer Biegen said the projects would go out to bid in February.

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### **Road Program**

Mayor Wilkie described where the work is going to be done for the program. He also advised where the sidewalks would be installed. There will also be handicapped ramps installed. Sidewalks will not be put on both sides; they will only be installed where there is some sidewalk already. From Front Street to Second Street sidewalk will also be installed. Engineer Biegen said the plan sheet will be revised to indicate the addition of the half block.

On Spruce Street the sidewalk will go from Wilbur Henry to Ninth Street. There won't be additional sidewalk because it is already installed on the Baird Avenue side of the street. On East Second Street sidewalk will be installed at the corner of Spruce down. There will be sidewalk on both sides from Spruce to Broad Street. There were only a couple spots that did not already have it.

On Cedar Street near the school there will be sidewalk on each side. The sidewalk will be adjacent to the curb. On Third Street from Cedar to Oak the sidewalk will only be on one side. Mayor Wilkie discussed the streets that are going to be repaved in Roebing. The idea is to maximize parking. There won't be any markings except for handicapped parking.

The drainage issue on Parrish Lane will be addressed. Council Member Baldorossi asked if the ponding on Maple Avenue is going to be taken care of? Engineer Biegen said it will be.

Mayor Wilkie said there are going to be improvements to the alley entrances on Maple Street.

Everyone was in agreement with the presented Road Program. Mayor Wilkie said there are many streets that need to be addressed in the community and the township is doing its best to prioritize them and get the needed repairs done.

### **Assistant Township Administrator**

#### **Resident's Sidewalk Request: Boulevard**

Assistant Administrator Sahol said he provided Mayor and Council with a memo from the Shade Tree Commission. It was based on their walk of the site as well as a report from the Township Solicitor that raised some issues. The commission has indicated that so as to maximize the potential for the trees' growth and to give the best chance of survival, they recommend no trees absent the area being enlarged to the fullest extent. They went on to make other notes and observations. They recommend the sidewalk be realigned and in line with the character of the community. The solicitor had other comments that spoke to other issues. At this point, hopefully, Council has adequate information to consider the request and make an informed decision.

Council President Sandusky said he had visited the site a couple times and read the reports from the Shade Tree Commission and also the report from the Township Solicitor. He believes it is best, in the best interest of the township, to deny the request.

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It was the **MOTION** of Sandusky, seconded by Lovenduski to deny the request of the Boulevard resident regarding the sidewalk.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Woolston

Motion carried.

#### **Auction: Municipal Surplus Items**

Assistant Administrator Sahol said the department heads each prepared a list of items for auction. David Lebak, the Director of Water & Sewer, had the most with the utility. He did have two additional pieces of equipment to add. The list provided is amended and he hoped there was no confusion. Mr. Lebak added an old printer and a personal computer that is no longer capable of keeping up with the department needs. Those were the only changes. All equipment that can no longer be used by the town or can't be made current for the operating systems are sold at auction.

Council President Sandusky asked when the auction would be held? Assistant Administrator Sahol said he will be discussing it with Clerk Weiler. There are statutes that are very specific regarding advertising. He estimated within the next 30 days. It is on Govdeals. The township website links to the Govdeals website.

Council President Sandusky asked if there needed to be any Council approvals? Assistant Administrator Sahol said as long as Council was in agreement a Resolution would be provided for the next meeting. All were in agreement to proceed with the auction.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said the township website is being updated with some modifications to include information regarding the **hazardous waste facility** that is being proposed in **Falls Township**. There are also copies of letters Mayor Wilkie wrote to various officials and a copy of the proposed plan. There will be an e-mail blast to residents registered for updates.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said in the packet was the request from Legion 194 for their **Annual Car Show**. He spoke with Martin Eckert, Recreation Coordinator, about it. They will be discussing it with the Police Department and will bring the information back to Council.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said today someone tried to drive into the slag area. No one was hurt and there was no damage, but despite the fact that signs were installed and some reflective barriers were there, they just drove right past them. A township employee saw them and they hightailed it out.

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There will be some additional signage and additional postings. The police did issue two summonses for criminal complaints because of people riding motorcycles on the grass.

Assistant Administrator Sahol met with Waste Management regarding the sea gulls at the slag area. He will also be in contact with the Department of Agriculture to be sure the township stays in compliance. Waste Management will help with the sea gulls the best they can. He spoke to the NJDEP and they are happy to hear there will be progress and the cover at the slag area will not be violated.

Council President Sandusky said he noticed that when the **recycling** is collected from the toters, the container is left in the street. The residents are putting them curbside for collection. It is getting dark early and people are going to run into the buckets.

Assistant Administrator Sahol said he has asked this question and he was told the crews are supposed to return them to the same location. He thinks it is just a matter of the crews trying to work quickly but he will mention it again to the county.

Council President Sandusky said he has noticed that the trash collectors do the same thing. He asked that they be contacted.

Mayor Wilkie noted it obstructs the flow of vehicles when these receptacles are left in the middle of the street.

Council Member Baldorossi asked Administrator Brook for an update on the police officer who was involved in an accident. Administrator Brook said on Sunday morning at around 6:45 someone was driving on Route 130 after a shift at work. The driver fell asleep and hit the officer's vehicle dead on in the rear doing between 50 and 60 mph. The officer is very fortunate, his air bag didn't deploy. The damage was extensive. Both vehicles were totaled. It was lucky the officer was driving one of the SUV's. The accident could have been worse under different circumstances.

The officer is sore in his back and neck. At this point, it does not look like there are any serious injuries. He is out of work. Standing still and being impacted at that speed causes trauma to the body and he will be out of work for a while to recover.

Administrator Brook said the Tahoe will need to be replaced. There will be insurance coverage but he does not know if it will cover everything. Normally to keep the fleet current, there are two vehicles replaced every year. The Tahoes are the vehicle of choice because they are very effective and are great for the EMT's. Normally the Florence Township Police Officers are the first EMT's on site and they are phenomenal EMT's.

He suggested it is a good time to do an ordinance for the three **Tahoes**. One will be the replacement that will be partially paid for by insurance.

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The insurance company is indicating it might cover the entire cost.

It is unclear how it will play out but clearly the other driver was at fault. One good thing about the new Tahoes is that they have 360 degree cameras. It is good from a technology and a discovery standpoint. It is proof of what is taking place out in the field.

Mayor Wilkie extended an invitation to the public to tour the administration area of the building. There is fresh paint and new carpeting that was done over the holidays. The hallway in those offices looks very nice with newly installed pictures and awards.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Don Kamienski, 10 McCay Drive, thanked the Public Works Department for picking up old Christmas trees in such a timely way. They were put on the curb and they were gone within a couple hours. Public Works did an excellent job in his neighborhood and he thanked them again.

Administrator Brook appreciated Mr. Kamienski saying that because the department is extremely diligent in picking up trees right away for the residents.

Bill Bott, 64 Riverbank Drive, said when trash and recycling are picked up, items drop on the ground and the crew doesn't pick it up. He thinks they should be more careful.

The Public Works Department, from what he has seen, is excellent. They do their jobs and they are thorough.

MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Ostrander to close the public comment. Roll call vote -all ayes.

Mayor Wilkie said regarding the Public Works Department, the leaf collection process is very good. The truck is monitored so the township can see when and where the truck was. If someone says their leaves were not picked up, it can be researched. He said when he puts his leaves out he doesn't tell anyone; they are not there very long. The seniors told him the collection is very good. There is only one vehicle taking care of the entire town.

### **Action**

#### **Resolution No. 2015-41**

**Approve Payment No. 1 for Contract for  
Skylights in the Municipal Building to  
Garozzo & Scimeca Construction, Inc.  
2922 Fries Mill Road  
Williamstown, NJ 08094**

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**MOTION** by Ostrander; seconded by Baldorossi to approve **Resolution No. 2015-41**.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Ostrander, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Woolston

Motion carried.

8:40 PM MOTION by Lovenduski; seconded by Baldorossi to adjourn. Roll call vote – all ayes.  
Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

8:40 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC  
Township Clerk  
/aek